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Methods and apparatus for setting a text composition spacing amount for a DTP system. At least one inter-character-class spacing amount setting table, for use in line composition, groups similar characters, forms a plurality of character classes and sets inter-character spacing amounts between a character class of a previous character and a character class of a next character within a pair of continuous characters. A display device displays electronic text that has been line composed. An input device receives user input. A spacing amount setter is operable to start in response to user input, to display a dialog box for user input of a spacing amount between the character class for the previous character and the character class for the next character, and to display in the dialog box an icon representing the character class for the previous character class for the next character.

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